

Hints for the Household.

Ladies scarcely realize the possibilities of chamois leather. It is an excellent material for decorative purposes. It takes color well, and is besides so soft and pliable that it can be very readily embroidered; in addition to this it answers well for designs in dry color.

Several years ago paper curtains were in great demand in England. They were usually in imitation of Eastern designs, and were, also, lined with paper, the linings being differently decorated. An attempt has been made to introduce them here, but hitherto not very successfully. They are, of course, much cheaper than hangings of worsted materials, and, as they have a glazed surface, they can be readily shaken or wiped free of dust.

A novelty in lace curtains is announced, which consists in the peculiarity of the design rather than in anything special in the fabric itself. It represents, within a border of floral design, a window with drapery and a view in perspective beyond. The idea may be new, but is certainly not artistic.

The fashionable table lamp to-day is mounted upon a beautifully painted vase of spheroid form, and is often of very great value, choice porcelain being selected for this purpose.

Some of the most beautiful carving by hand is carried out in cedar wood. They are especially adapted for glove-boxes and other small articles.

The table doilies are now often embroidered in the center only. An initial letter is frequently selected, and with a fanciful or grotesque figure is carried out in raised dotted embroidery.

A novelty is about to be introduced for bed-rooms in the shape of a draped toilet table. The foundation is of ordinary wood, and above the table an upper frame is supplied with a swinging mirror. The drapery is arranged upon a projecting shelf above the frame and festooned round the glass, which is also decorated with a double ruching of the material. Usually paper muslin of light color is selected as a background, and spotted Swiss supplies the material of the drapery itself.

Crystal is gaining in favor. Most beautiful center-pieces for the lunch-table are in vogue, deeply cut in material, and a new shape has superseded the globular. It is not unlike a crescent.

Iridescent mother-of-pearl is much used now for bouquet-holders, fan-handles, etc. It is often richly carved, but still more frequently inlaid with gold and silver.

Braiding is becoming popular again. Rounded soutache will be used, as the designs can be executed in raised work by its use. It is easy to give Eastern effects by carrying out a free design upon muslin, scrum, or thin materials of any kind.

The effect of applique work, which is given to the popular jute and linen plushes so much in use now is gained by the great attention that is paid to the effect of light and shade. Even without the outline embroidery in gold thread, which gives them their handsome finish, the same result is largely effected.

Cushions for deep cane chairs are made of tufted plush or satin, and as an accompaniment a strip of the same material and color is embroidered as a scarf for the back and finished off with deep fringe, which is often of rich quality.

A handsome ornament for the parlor wall consists of a small cabinet in carved wood, the doors of which open downward and by means of movable supports from a writing-desk. Frequently the panels are either pointed or pieces of embroidery are mounted upon them.

Oddly-shaped tables are much in demand. Some of them are round and just low enough to reach a lady's elbows as she sits at work and are rotatory. Others are round in front and straight at the back, and are supported upon half-reclining figures. Tables of every shape are to be had for decoration at home, and are covered with jute plush embroidered in raised figures or simply finished off by a deep fringe.

Ornamental figures in terra cotta are seen everywhere. By the introduction of color an immense variety in effect is gained, and where only moderately used it is as beautiful as effective.

Menu cards can be beautifully decorated at home. They should be in three folds, like miniature screens, and each fold should bear a different floral or emblematic device. The outer one, if possible, should have as decoration the monogram of the guest by whose plate it is placed.

Vegetables may be artistically beautiful, but the attempt to introduce them as appropriate decoration for table mats and doilies has not proved successful; fruits, blossoms, or fancy figures are far more suitable.—N. Y. Times.

What is Due Our Children.

Herbert Spencer would have been much more wisely engaged had he shown the American people the absurdity of heaping up gigantic fortunes for their children to quarrel over after their death. All that any parent owes to a child is a good education and a profession. Our offspring have a right to demand that they should be equipped for the battle of life, the only excuse for leaving superfluous wealth being in case any of the family are disqualified for work. The aged parents, the widow and the helpless child should have, at least, means enough to sustain them comfortably; but, unfortunately, left to children have often wrought their ruin. The girl becomes the prey of the fortune-hunter, while the young man but too frequently spends his father's hard earnings in riotous living. What a vast social change it would make in the United States if American parents generally realized that they owed nothing to their children but the best possible education and a profession or trade, which is the due of the daughter as well as the son.—Democrat's Monthly.

Colonel George L. Godfrey, of Iowa, a member of the Utah Commission, expresses an opinion that the Edmunds law will eventually suppress polygamy in the Territory. The younger men among the Mormons, he states, are not inclined to become polygamists. The Mormon Church, he believes, is in danger of dissolution.

HOME AND FARM.

—Some farmers have learned that less work and more thought secures larger returns at the end of the year.

—To make good coffee take four heaping tablespoons of coffee, two squares of isinglass, and one quart of boiling water; boil for five minutes and keep hot, but not boiling, for ten minutes.—Chicago News.

F. D. Curtis, Saratoga County, N. Y., has been experimenting with straw as food for animals in place of hay. He reports in its favor, provided a sufficient amount of grain be given in connection with the straw.

—Farmers should learn their sons to feed—and feed intelligently—but the best way to do it is to be with them, and not by spending the day in town, and then scolding the boys because the work is not done right.—Iowa State Register.

—The following is said to be a solvent for old putty and paint: Soft soap mixed with a solution of potash or caustic soda or pearlash, and slaked lime mixed with sufficient water to form a paste. Either of these, laid on with an old brush or rag and left for some hours, will render the putty or paint easily removable.

—It is just as easy to salt the food of stock when mixing as to give it to them alone. As it is a common practice to feed the cattle first and afterward salt them, as it is styled, by giving them a lump of rock salt to lick, or a handful to eat, at regular intervals, the stock often suffers from the system.—Chicago Journal.

—Recipe for nice cake: This recipe makes a very light cake—it is nice baked in layers, with filling you choose. One cup and a half of sugar, half a cup of butter, two-thirds of a cup of sweet milk, two and a half cups of flour, two eggs, and two teaspoonsful of baking powder. The flavoring must depend upon the filling.—Detroit Post.

—Good fish-balls are made of one pint of raw potatoes and half a pint of uncooked fish, washed and stripped fine. Put them together in a kettle, and cover with boiling water and let them boil until soft; then drain, mash, and beat until light; add one tablespoonful of butter, one salt-spoonful of pepper, a little salt if necessary, and one egg well beaten. Shape and fry in hot lard.

—Unless hay and grain or oil-cake be given to sheep as an extra feed, the mere feeding of sheep on a pasture cannot be so profitable as the feeding of cattle, when these animals have even a small amount of oil-cake, for instance, the advantage to the pasture is at once observable. As the supposed enrichment of a pasture by sheep is all the dressing that some fields have had for years, there is no wonder that pastures become worn out.—American Farmer.

—A unique ornament for the corner of a room is made by procuring a well-seasoned board, about three feet and a half long and eighteen inches wide. This is to be covered with dove-colored felt, on which is embroidered in crewells a bunch of cat-tails and grasses. The effect to be sought in arranging the group is that of their being laid upon the board when freshly gathered. There must be no stiffness in the arrangement; the grasses and seeds must be of unequal lengths, some of them reaching quite to the top of the board, and all uniting at the bottom as if dropped from the hand. This may be placed in any graceful position in the corner of the room.—N. Y. Post.

Farmers and Farm Help.

In time of scarcity of farm help, and when public works are bidding so high for labor, one of the worst troubles with farmers is the uncertainty of having help just at the important time. They are in doubt about sowing or planting, fearing that just in harvest they may have no help. A hand may contract for a whole year at a stipulated price per month. He works all through the leisure time on the farm, but as soon as the crowd of work comes he will demand higher wages or quit work. The farmer can not withhold part of the wages to pay the damages, justices and courts ruling that the hand must be paid full price for past labor, and that he can work his contract out or not as he pleases. There is no doubt that hands when they contract do it honestly, with the intention of faithfully performing. But a slight offense or dissatisfaction of any kind destroys all good intentions, and the hand quits just at the time most needed.

On the other side a hand may work faithfully through a heavy harvest, with the promise of constant work for months past. But the farmer in the poorest expense discharges the hand as soon as the press of work is over. This is wrong, and works great injustice to both parties. There should be a remedy for such evils on the part of laborer and employer. Both should abide by their contracts. In order to enforce such contracts they should be in writing. And the farmer in that contract should agree to pay each month just what the work is worth in that month, with a slight variation for the damages which might accrue by its violation just in the rush of business when labor cannot be supplied. If a hand is worth \$240 per year, a written contract to pay \$10 per month for the months of January, February and March. Twenty dollars per month for April, May and June. Forty dollars per month for July and August. Fifteen dollars per month for September and October. Thirty per month for November (corn harvest), and \$10 for December, making for the year \$240. This would be just to employ and employer. Then if a hand is discharged from employment without good cause, he should be entitled to full pay and board until he can get employment or until expiration of contract.

There should be something done more effectively to make labor and pay more certain. If a man is compelled to pay a hand for the full year, if the hand performs his part, so should the hand be compelled to work the whole year if he contracts to, if the employer performs his part. Uncertainty in labor is next thing to uncertainty in pay. And any fair plan which can be devised to render justice to both sides is very desirable, and would relieve farming of much of its anxiety and defeats.—Iowa State Register.

One of America's Meanest.

Yesterday morning early a colored woman named Stubbs breathed her last in the old Cooper House, near the Macon & Brunswick depot. Her brother, George Stubbs, worn out from sitting up all night for several nights with his suffering sister, gave a colored friend named York Radford four dollars to go down town and get a coffin. York proceeded on his way down town, but on passing a store on Fourth street his eyes lit upon a pair of boots that suited him exactly. He wrestled with his conscience a little while, and gave the merchant two dollars and fifty cents and put on the boots.

He then presented himself before Clerk Smith of the County Commissioners, and laid before that official a panorama of poverty that was absolutely appalling. He painted the destitute condition of the Stubbs family in tears and sorrow, and so worked upon Clerk Smith's feelings that he gave him an order for a pauper coffin on R. R. Wilder's Sons. York spent the remainder of the money in dissipation.

About eleven o'clock George began to grow uneasy about his sister's coffin. He came down town to see if York had been run over by the cars. He found his man taking things coolly. George asked about the purchase, and York said it was all right. He asked George to wait a minute while he spoke to a man down the alley. George would have waited until now had not a suspicion flashed across his mind. He got Officers McCafferty and Golden on the track, and so they had York in the lock-up. He told the officers that the corpse was "fresh died" and could wait until he could get the coffin there.—Macon (Ga.) Telegraph.

—Bouquet Johnny, a widely-known Philadelphia flower peddler, was a Langtry victim. Whether his regard for the beauty was a matter of sentiment or business is conjectural; but it is certain that he decided to give her an immense and costly bouquet in Philadelphia. He went to her hotel, sent up his card, and was met by a handsome young woman, to whom he handed the flowers, with a neat speech. She accepted the gift very graciously, and he retired in a state of wild delight, only to be plunged down to despair by learning that he had only seen Mrs. Langtry's maid.—Philadelphia Record.

—The term "Bedlam," which is in common use in England for institutions for the insane, is an abbreviation of Bethlehem—the first asylum ever founded in England, the date being 1517.

—An Age of Suspicion. Nevertheless, Captain M. Howard of the steamer William Crane, Merchants' & Miners' Transportation Line between Boston and Baltimore, who suffered severely from rheumatism, caused by the exposure incident to his profession, was cured by St. Jacobs Oil. This is no suspicion.—Boston Globe.

There is a grocer in a certain small town in this State who has always been called the stingiest man in Michigan, and many stories are about his breaking crackers in two and taking out the pieces of flour to make exact weight. It seems, however, that he has been harshly judged. A few days ago he had a lot of cranberries displayed at the door, and a lady pedestrian had asked, "Are they fresh?" "Oh, yes," "How much a quart?" "Twenty cents, madam." "That's ten cents for a pint, five cents for a half, and a half lady pedestrian had asked, "You want a quart?" "Oh, no, I was reading that corns could be cured by binding on a split cranberry. I have two corns, and one berry would be just the thing for me." "Very well—take it along. Hold on! Let's see—let's see—yes, I can do it. I'll throw in an extra berry, madam, and do both up in a parcel for you to place in a customer if I don't make a cent!"—Detroit Free Press.

Health, Strength and Vigor. If you are seeking health, strength and vigor, we earnestly request you to give Dr. Guy's Yellow Dock and Sarsaparilla. It is a good reason for a healthy, robust, and true strengthener of every part of the body.

How to expel the mites—Get papa to ask what their intentions are.

Personal! The Voltaire Bait Co., Marshall, Mich., will sell Dr. Dyer's Celebrated Electric Vaseline and Electric Appliances on trial for thirty days to men (young or old) who are afflicted with nervous debility, lost vitality and kindred troubles, or suffering from complete exhaustion of health and vitality. Address as above. N. B.—No risk is incurred, as thirty days' trial is allowed.

A very little thing turns the head of a crank. "Dr. Benson's Colic and Cholera Pills are worth their weight in gold in nervous and sick headache."—Dr. H. H. Schlichter, of Baltimore.

Poisoning by the use of horrid hair-dyes may be looked upon as a drier calamity.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17, 1883.	
CATTLE—Exports.	\$ 50
COTTON—Good to Choice.	4 50
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.	1 15
CORN—No. 2.	67 1/2
OATS—Western Mixed.	43
PORK—New Mess.	18 50
ST. LOUIS.	
COTTON—Medium.	5 94
BEANS—Fair to Good.	5 10
STEEPS—Fair to Good.	3 75
HOGS—Common to Select.	4 10
SHEEP—Fair to Choice.	4 00
FLOUR—XXX to Choice.	3 75
WHEAT—No. 2 Winter.	1 01
CHICAGO.	
CORN—No. 2 Mixed.	47
OATS—No. 2.	37 1/2
RYE—No. 2.	50
TOBACCO—Lugs.	5 50
BROOM-CORN.	20
HAY—Choice Timothy.	14 25
BUTTER—Choice Dairy.	30
BROWN-CORN.	20
EGGS—Choice.	20
PORK—New Mess.	16 50
LARD—Prime Steam.	10
WOOL—Tub-washed, medium.	30
Unwashed.	20
KANSAS CITY.	
CATTLE—Native Cows.	4 20
HOGS—Sales at Auction.	5 30
WHEAT—No. 2.	78
OATS—No. 2.	40
NEW ORLEANS.	
FLOUR—High Grades.	4 60
OATS—Western.	47
HAY—Choice.	18 10
PORK—New Mess.	18 10
COTTON—Medium.	5 94

A STRANGE REMINISCENCE.

The Escape of a Well Known ex-Army Surgeon from an Unforeseen Danger.

(Baltimore American.)

Misses Editors: I seldom appear publicly in print, but the facts connected with my experience which follow are so striking, and bear so closely upon the experience of others, that I venture to reproduce them entire.

In the month of September, 1879, I was practicing medicine in New Orleans. The summer had been excessively hot and everybody was complaining of being exhausted and feeling tired. It was not an infrequent occurrence that weary patients ask for something to relieve this weary sensation, and that I should also partake of the same universal lassitude or weakness, did not alarm me. I supposed that over-work and exposure had produced a temporary physical prostration; therefore I made a trip to St. Paul, Minn., thinking that a rest of a few weeks in a cooler climate would soon reinvigorate me. Little did I dream, however, what was in store for me. After getting settled in my new quarters I took a short walk every day, and patiently awaited a return of strength, but in spite of all my efforts I seemed to be losing strength; and even any slight exercise became laborious and tiresome. During this time I was suffering from a dull, heavy sensation in my head, and through my back and hips, occasional shooting pains in various parts of the body, with soreness, shortness of breath, palpitation of the heart. My feet and hands would be like one day, and burn with heat the next. I had no desire for food, and what I did eat distressed me; my sleep became disturbed with the frequent dreamy and unrefreshing. The quantity of fluid passed would at one time be small and at another quite profuse. Then for days I would be perfectly free and nothing seemed to be the matter; nevertheless my debility gradually increased. My eyelids were pulled out; my bowels were alternately torpid and loose; the tongue would be dry and sticky, and on others it would be of high color and deposit a brick-dust sediment, and at still others there would be a whitish appearance and a thin coating of mucus would rise to the top. The pains in my head, back, chest, joints, bowels and bones were horrible in the extreme. I went in vain from place to place and consulted the medical authorities for the cure of my ailment. I would have a chill one day and a burning fever the next. I suffered excruciatingly with a numbness of my feet and hands, and at the back and between my shoulders; at times my limbs and body would be so bloated and physicians said I was suffering from the dropsy and could not recover.

How could I be so blind to the terrible trouble that was devouring me, I do not know; but there are thousands to-day who are suffering from the same cause and are ignorant of its nature as I was. My skin was the color of marble at one time, and then again it would be like saffron, and this terrible restlessness, I might say, wildness, was followed by a dull, heavy, drowsy sensation. I was wasted to a mere skeleton except when the dropsical bloated occurred. I tried all the celebrated mineral waters of Europe and all kinds of doctors. Still no help came. I lay at my hotel in Philadelphia, where I was suffering from the disease, when I was visited by a friend, a physician, who then provisionally came into my hands a little pamphlet, which I carefully read, and from a view of its nature as I was. My skin was the color of marble at one time, and then again it would be like saffron, and this terrible restlessness, I might say, wildness, was followed by a dull, heavy, drowsy sensation. 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